

GENERAL ORDINANCE NO. 197
TOWN OF TURTLE, ROCK COUNTY, WISCONSIN
ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION

The Town Board of the Town of Turtle, Wisconsin, pursuant to Sections 60.56, 60.57 and 62.13 of the Wisconsin Statutes does ordain as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town of Turtle desires to establish a Police and Fire Commission; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Sections 60.56, 60.57 and 62.13 of the Wisconsin Statutes, the Town is empowered to establish a Police and Fire Commission, hereinafter, the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE,

The Town Board of the Town of Turtle establishes a Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission forthwith;

The Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission shall consist of no fewer than five (5) members. The initial five (5) members shall be the five (5) elected Town Board Supervisors. Their terms on the Commission shall coincide with their terms as Supervisors;

Three (3) members shall constitute a quorum of the Commission and no more than three (3) members may belong to the same political party;

The Town Chairperson shall appoint any members of the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission beyond the initial five (5) members. Those appointments shall be subject to approval by the Town Board. These members shall serve three (3) year terms;

All members of the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission shall be compensated on a per diem basis as outlined in the Town of Turtle ordinances. The Town Chairperson shall fill any unexpected vacancies subject to approval by the Town Board;

The members of the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission shall meet within thirty (30) days of initially taking their oaths of office in order to select officers. Thereafter, the body shall meet at least once per year as an organizational meeting. The Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission may meet more often in order to discharge its duties. The body may adopt rules as allowed by law to more effectively conduct its affairs;

The Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission shall elect a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and a Secretary. The officers shall serve one (1) year terms. The body may appoint a non-member to assist the Secretary;

The Chairperson shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. preside over all meetings and hearings and ensure their orderly conduct;
 - b. accept the filing of written charges against Chiefs and subordinates;
 - c. issues subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses at hearings pursuant to Section 62.13(5)(d) of the Wisconsin Statutes;
 - d. administer oaths to witnesses appearing before the body;
 - e. formally read the charge(s) to the accused at any hearing, including the provisions alleged to have been violated;
 - f. ask questions and control questions asked by other members during any hearing;
 - g. ensure standards for procedural due process are afforded the accused at any hearing;
- and
- h. adjourn all proceedings.

The Vice-Chairperson shall act in the capacity of the Chairperson whenever the Chairperson is unavailable for any reason;

The Secretary shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- a. conduct all correspondence of the body, send all notices required by law and maintain the rules of the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission;
 - b. publish all office notices as required;
 - c. attend and keep a record of all Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission proceedings, including the preservation of testimony and any evidence received by the body at any hearings in a permanent record and to certify such record to the Circuit Court when required by law;
 - d. maintain the minutes of each meeting and hearing, with said minutes being signed by the Secretary and Chairperson upon approval by the body;
 - e. provide copies of all Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission minutes to each member as soon as possible and file a copy of said minutes with the Town Clerk;
 - f. accept the filing of all appointments under Section 62.13(1) of the Wisconsin Statutes;
- and
- g. accept for filing all finding and determinations of the body relative to disciplinary actions and Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission orders, all of which shall be filed within three (3) days of their adoption pursuant to Section 62.13(5)(f) of the Wisconsin Statutes.

The Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission shall appoint the Chief of Police and the Chief of the Fire Department, who shall hold their offices during good behavior, subject to suspension or removal by the body for just cause;

The provisions of Sections 62.13(4) and (5) of the Wisconsin Statutes, and any amendments or modifications made subsequent to them by the legislature, shall guide the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission in regard to subordinate officers;

The Chief of Police and the Fire Chief shall have the right to summarily suspend or remove any subordinate who is on probationary status without the need for a hearing in front of the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission;

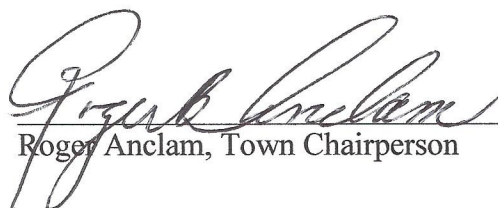
Any member of the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission, who is not a Board Supervisor, may be removed by a majority vote of the Town of Turtle Town Board at any time without cause and without a hearing. Any vacancy, created by removal or resignation, shall be filled by appointment by the Town Chairperson subject to approval by the Town Board;

Any actions or decisions made by the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission shall supersede any and all actions or decisions made by the Town of Turtle Fire Department Board of Directors; and

Any action or decision made by the Town of Turtle Police and Fire Commission may be appealed to the Rock County Circuit Court.

This ordinance shall take effect as of its date of passage and publication.

Dated: October 9, 2019



Roger Anclam, Town Chairperson



Deborah Bennett, Town Clerk